

MINUTES

MONTANA SENATE 64th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE AND CLAIMS

Call to Order: Chair Llew Jones, on February 25, 2015 at 7:30 A.M., in Room 317
Capitol

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Sen. Llew Jones, Chair (R)
Sen. Bob Keenan, Vice Chair (R)
Sen. John Brenden (R)
Sen. Mary Caferro (D)
Sen. Bradley Hamlett (D)
Sen. David Howard (R) arrived after roll call
Sen. Jim Keane (D)
Sen. Frederick (Eric) Moore (R)
Sen. Mike Phillips (D)
Sen. Rick Ripley (R)
Sen. Jon C. Sesso (D)
Sen. Janna Taylor (R) arrived after roll call
Sen. Roger Webb (R)
Sen. Jonathan Windy Boy (D)
Sen. Cynthia Wolken (D)

Members Excused: Sen. Mark Blasdel (R) arrived after roll call
Sen. Kris Hansen (R) arrived after roll call
Sen. Matthew M. Rosendale Sr (R) arrived after roll call
Sen. Cary Smith (R) arrived after roll call

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Prudence Gildroy, Committee Secretary
Julie Johnson, Legislative Branch
Jon Moe, Legislative Branch

Audio Committees: These minutes are in outline form only. They provide a list of participants and a record of official action taken by the committee. The link to the audio recording of the meeting is available on the Legislative Branch website.

Committee Business Summary:

Hearing & Date Posted: SB 167, 2/24/2015; SB 254, 2/24/2015; SB 272, 2/24/2015; SB 316, 2/24/2015; SB 354, 2/24/2015; SB 366, 2/24/2015; SB 323, 2/24/2015; SB 328, 2/24/2015

HEARING ON SB 167

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:02:59 Sen. Dick Barrett (D), SD 45, opened the hearing on SB 167, Update tax haven laws.

00:06:05 Sen. Taylor joined the meeting.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:07:24 Gene Walborn, deputy director, Department of Revenue (DOR)

00:07:56 Sen. Howard joined the meeting.

00:08:07 Heather O'Loughlin, Montana Budget and Policy Center (MBPC)

Opponents' Testimony:

00:09:59 Bob Story, Montana Taxpayers Association

[EXHIBIT\(fcs43a01\)](#)

00:12:14 Dave Galt, executive director, Montana Petroleum Association (MPA)

00:12:53 Glenn Oppel, Montana Chamber of Commerce

[EXHIBIT\(fcs43a02\)](#)

Informational Testimony:

00:14:07 Jim Brown, representing the embassy of Ireland

[EXHIBIT\(fcs43a03\)](#)

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:14:55 Sen. Phillips

00:15:01 Rep. Barrett

00:15:30 Sen Phillips

00:15:34 Mr. Galt, MPA

00:16:09 Sen. Phillips

00:16:29 Mr. Galt

00:16:41 Sen. Hamlett

00:17:02 Rep. Barrett

00:17:57 Sen. Sesso

00:18:30 Mr. Walborn, DOR

00:19:59 Sen. Sesso

00:20:23 Mr. Walborn

Closing by Sponsor:

00:21:12 Rep. Barrett

HEARING ON SB 254

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:22:45 Sen. Jim Keane (D), SD 38, opened the hearing on SB 254, Generally revise laws related to Montana State Fund.

[EXHIBIT\(fcs43a04\)](#)

Proponents' Testimony: None

Opponents' Testimony:

00:33:25 Nancy Butler, Montana State Fund (MSF)
00:38:34 Spook Stang, executive vice president, Motor Carriers of Montana
00:40:19 Bruce Knudsen, executive vice president, Montana Auto Dealers Association
00:41:44 Glenn Oppel, Montana Chamber of Commerce
00:42:19 Bob Biskupiak, Independent Insurance Agents of Montana
00:42:53 Riley Johnson, National Federation of Independent Business (NFIB)

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:43:20 Sen. Keenan
00:43:44 Ms. Butler, MSF
00:44:11 Sen. Moore
00:44:36 Ms. Butler

[EXHIBIT\(fcs43a05\)](#)

00:45:31 Sen. Taylor
00:45:46 Ms. Butler
00:46:23 Sen. Taylor
00:46:30 Ms. Butler
00:46:37 Sen. Rosendale
00:46:59 Sen. Keane
00:48:06 Sen. Rosendale
00:48:22 Sen. Keane
00:48:42 Sen. Sesso
00:49:40 Sen. Keane

Closing by Sponsor:

00:50:13 Sen. Keane

HEARING ON SB 272

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:50:57 Sen. Jonathan Windy Boy (D), SD 16, opened the hearing on SB 272,
Encourage Indian language immersion schools.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:52:09 Dennis Parman, Office of Public Instruction (OPI)
00:52:29 Marco Ferro, MEA-MFT

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses: None

Closing by Sponsor:

00:52:56 Sen. Windy Boy

HEARING ON SB 316

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:53:21 Sen. Roger Webb (R), SD 23, opened the hearing on SB 316, Generally revise
laws re when certain individuals may be transferred to DOC.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:56:01 Beth Brenneman, attorney, Disability Rights Montana (DRM)
00:58:57 John Wilkinson, representing himself

Opponents' Testimony:

01:00:07 Glenda Oldenburg, administrator, Addictive and Mental Disorders Division,
Department of Public Health and Human Services (DPHHS)

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses: None

Closing by Sponsor:

01:03:06 Sen. Webb

HEARING ON SB 354

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

01:04:20 Sen. Rick Ripley (R), SD 10, opened the hearing on SB 354, Create infrastructure funding program.

[EXHIBIT\(fcs43a06\)](#)

01:09:15 Sen. Sesso

01:09:25 Sen. Ripley

Proponents' Testimony:

01:09:32 Cary Hegreberg, executive director, Montana Contractors Association

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony:

01:12:24 Cathy Duncan, Legislative Fiscal Division (LFD)

[EXHIBIT\(fcs43a07\)](#)

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

01:13:01 Sen. Sesso

01:13:47 Sen. Ripley

Closing by Sponsor:

01:14:55 Sen. Ripley

HEARING ON SB 366

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

01:16:05 Sen. Mary Caferro (D), SD 41, opened the hearing on SB 366, Require CHIP coverage of autism spectrum disorder.

[EXHIBIT\(fcs43a08\)](#)

Proponents' Testimony:

01:22:14 Beth Brenneman, attorney, Disability Rights Montana (DRM)

01:23:26 Matt Bugni, AWARE, Inc.

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony:

01:24:32 Jo Thompson, Department of Public Health and Human Services (DPHHS)

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

01:25:06 Sen. Webb

01:25:30 Sen. Caferro

Closing by Sponsor:

01:26:30 Sen. Caferro

Vice Chair Keenan assumed the chair.

HEARING ON SB 323

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

01:28:08 Sen. Jennifer Fielder (R), SD 7, opened the hearing on SB 323, Require state intervention in federal projects.

Proponents' Testimony: None

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony:

01:31:48 Jon Bennion, Office of the Attorney General, Department of Justice (DOJ)

01:32:09 Bob Harrington, state forester, Department of Natural Resources and Conservation (DNRC)

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

01:32:35 Sen. Howard

01:32:54 Mr. Harrington, DNRC

01:33:24 Sen. Howard

01:33:35 Mr. Harrington

01:33:49 Sen. Phillips

01:34:22 Mr. Bennion, DOJ

01:36:28 Sen. Phillips

01:36:41 Mr. Bennion

01:36:47 Sen. Hamlett

01:37:56 Mr. Bennion

01:38:40 Sen. Hamlett

01:38:52 Mr. Bennion

Closing by Sponsor:

01:39:16 Sen. Fielder

HEARING ON SB 328

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

01:42:07 Sen. Llew Jones (R), SD 9, opened the hearing on SB 328, Provide for higher education seeded savings accounts.

[EXHIBIT\(fcs43a09\)](#)

Proponents' Testimony:

01:45:22 Kelly Cresswell, Student Assistance Foundation

01:45:45 Tyler Trevor, Office of the Commissioner of Higher Education

Opponents' Testimony:

01:46:08 Eric Feaver, MEA-MFT

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

01:48:10 Sen. Phillips

01:48:35 Sen. Jones

01:49:02 Sen. Phillips

01:49:25 Sen. Jones

01:50:25 Sen. Phillips

01:50:33 Sen. Hansen

01:51:16 Sen. Jones

01:51:57 Sen. Hansen

01:54:11 Sen. Jones

01:56:12 Sen. Hansen

01:56:18 Sen. Ripley assumed the chair and Vice Chair Keenan left the meeting.

01:56:35 Sen. Jones

01:57:21 Sen. Taylor

01:57:45 Sen. Jones

Closing by Sponsor:

01:58:13 Sen. Jones

Chairman Jones assumed the chair.

01:59:02 Recess

02:18:12 Reconvene

02:18:15 Chair Jones

RECESS

Recess: 9:50 a.m.

Prudence Gildroy, Secretary

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Additional Documents:

EXHIBIT([fcs43aad.pdf](#))